

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BEIRUT 01905 261443Z
ACTION CU-03

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3808

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DEPT ALSO PASS AID

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: EAID LE
SUBJ: AMERICAN PROFESSORS FOR LEBANESE UNIVERSITY

REF: (A) BEIRUT 1147; (B) STATE 068782

1. MINISTER OF SOCIAL AFFAIRS, DR. ASSAD RIZK, AND DEAN OF SCIENCE FACULTY OF LEBANESE UNIVERSITY, DR. HASAN MSHARAFIEH, HAVE REQUESTED SIX AMERICAN PROFESSORS IN ORDER TO START AN ENGLISH LANGUAGE PROGRAM IN MATHEMATICS. RIZK SAID FACULTY WANTED PROFESSORS TO REMAIN FOR AT LEAST FOUR YEARS, WHICH WOULD ALLOW ENOUGH TIME TO "PRIME THE PUMP" AND TRAIN LEBANESE STUDENTS WHO, AFTER GRADUATE STUDY ABROAD, WOULD BE ABLE TO RETURN TO LEBANESE UNIVERSITY AND TEACH MATHEMATICS IN ENGLISH.

2. MSHARAFIEH SAID FACULTY WANTED ONE PROFESSOR WITH PHD FOR EACH OF THE FOLLOWING SUBJECTS: ADVANCED ALGEBRA, ADVANCED CALCULUS, TOPOLOGY, NUMERICAL ANALYSIS, PROBABILITY, AND MATHEMATICAL STATISTICS. MSHARAFIEH SAID UNIVERSITY WOULD PAY AMERICAN PROFESSORS SALARIES EQUAL TO THAT OF LEBANESE PROFESSORS, BUT HOPED USG WOULD SUBSIDIZE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN LEBANESE AND AMERICAN PAY SCALES.

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PAGE 02 BEIRUT 01905 261443Z

3. IF SECURITY SITUATION CONTINUES TO IMPROVE, EMBASSY SEES DEFINITE ADVANTAGES TO U.S. IN SUPPORTING THIS PROGRAM. COULD NECESSARY FUNDS BE TAKEN FROM AID APPROPRIATION FOR LEBANON? HOW SOON COULD NECESSARY TEACHERS BE RECRUITED? WE WOULD APPRECIATE ANY INFORMATION ON THIS SUBJECT THAT WE CAN PASS TO MINISTER RIZK AND DR. MSHARAFIEH.
PARKER

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Message Attributes

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